

"Tramp" pictures

1/7/69

Dear <sup>Mr</sup>oo,

The enclose copy of this a.m.'s letter to Sprague speaks for itself. You know my source.

When I phoned Sprague the end of last week to get his Altgens notes for you he told me more about what Turner has established, he thinks beyond any doubt, about these pictures. It seems they can always be interpreted to fit each new development, each time all earlier interpretations being forgotten, each positiveness of the past in now way impairing the dependability of the same wrong source in the present.

About Altgens: He has never typed his notes, has only one copy, and promised to Xerox them yesterday and mail a set to you. I have never seen them. Aside from learning that Altgens himself did not know how many pictures he took until Sprague started getting him to backtrack, when he found about a dozen, I do not recall, if I even knew, what Altgens did get. He recalled only the three that had been used by the late time, June 1964, that the feds got around to speaking to him.

First I must acknowledge a prejudice. Were Turner today assure me that God is in heaven, I'd accept his assurance as reason to doubt it.

So here is what Sprague, with some excitement, told me on the fourth:

Of course, the one man is certainly Bradley. While once he doubted it, he now does not. The man with the hat is Crisman, also beyond doubt. There are two identical scars on a recent picture of Crisman that exactly coincide with two scars on this man's face in these pictures. (Obviously the mere executioners did not trust their "paymaster", so they insisted he be on the spot and pay them immediately!) "Hold your hat", he told me of the third, and then said it was too hot to put on the phone. You realize, the remaining man is the romantic "Frenchy", not too far in the past so certainly connected with the LBJ ranch, was it? He is now a former Minutemen, an anti-Castro fighter from Miami and New Orleans.

From another of my young (and from my experience, solid and dependable) collaborators, I learn that Sprague, presumably with Turner's assistance, has identified Frenchy as "Raoul" in the Huie version of the life of James Earl Ray.

In view of the record of the recent past, I believe you should have this. If Oser is showing any interest in the pictures, please tell him. I think Louis should also see. Because of the evil potential of these pictures, I will continue my checking. I fear, because of the influence these pictures and people have had on him, it is required....How deeply we are indebted to Johnny Carson for his boorishness!

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg